

# ORANGE HAWKWEED

## Tier 1

### **Overview**

Orange hawkweed reproduces and spreads through prolific seed production, as well as vegetatively through stolons and rhizomes. Under ideal conditions, one plant can spread and infest an area 2–3 feet in diameter in its first year of growth. It forms extensive mats that can compete with forest understory plants. It is an aggressive competitor for space, light, and soil nutrients. It has been reported to be allelopathic, producing phytotoxic chemicals in pollen grains that inhibit seed germination, seeding emergence, or regeneration of other plants.

### **Habitat**

It is adapted to a wide range of temperatures and can grow in gravelly acidic soils, full or part sun and can grow under coniferous forest canopies but it does require well drained soils.

### **Identification**

**Stems:** Leafless with bristly hair, 15-90 cm tall and produce a milky sap. There can be one to several stems per plant.

**Leaves:** Basal leaves are also covered with hair and are 10-15 cm long.

**Flower:** The petals on the flowers are squared edged, notched, and orange-red in colour. There can be 5-30 heads at the end of one stem.

**Seeds:** Each flower produces 12-30 tiny seeds that are dark brown or black, cylindrical, elongated, longitudinally ridged, barbed, and bristled.

